

STATINTL

Friend of Mrs. Powers Hints Fear Is Growing

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., July 9 (AP).—A friend of the family of U-2 spy plane pilot Francis G. Powers hinted today that there is fear air is not well with him.

The source, who declined to be identified, said a second letter from the pilot to his wife, Mrs. Barbara M. Powers, "did not ring true."

"It was too much like the first one," the source said. "It did not indicate what it should have indicated. If you know what I mean."

The source, a personal friend of the family, said he did not read the second letter but that he was told by Mrs. Powers that it was "a repetitious situation."

"It just didn't reveal anything that wasn't in the first letter," he said.

Mrs. Powers said in Richmond (Va.) Monday that the second letter was dated June 28. At that time Mrs. Powers said she could not "detect any means of the letter being censored."

"The reason Mrs. Powers did not release contents of the second letter," the friend said today, "was that she did not want anyone to speculate on the similarity between it and the first one."

The source was not surprised when told there was speculation the pilot already had been tried.

Mrs. Powers, who has been living in Milledgeville with her mother since her husband was forced down in Russia, was reported en route to her sister's home in Albany, Ga.